AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS PURSUANT TO REVISED 37 CFR § 1.121

The following is a listing of claims that replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1. (Currently amended) A method of labeling oligonucleotides, comprising:
 - a) providing:
 - i) a solid support-bound oligonucleotide comprising an amino group;
 - ii) a bifunctional linker arm comprising a hydrocarbon chain, a protected secondary amine, and a hydroxyl group; and
 - iii) an in situ unactivated label selected from the group consisting of:

- b) reacting said solid support-bound oligonucleotide with said bifunctional linker arm to produce a support-bound, linker-oligonucleotide;
- c) reacting said in situ unactivated label to create an in situ activated label; and
- d) reacting said support-bound linker-oligonucleotide with said activated label to produce a labeled support-bound protected oligonucleotide.
- 2. (Cancelled)
- 3. (Cancelled)

- 4. (Currently amended) A method of labeling oligonucleotides, comprising:
 - a) providing:
 - i) a solid support-bound oligonucleotide comprising an amino group;
 - ii) a bifunctional linker arm comprising a hydrocarbon chain, a protected secondary amine, and a hydroxyl group; and
 - iii) an in situ unactivated label selected from the group consisting of:

- b) reacting said solid support-bound oligonucleotide with said bifunctional linker arm to produce a support-bound, linker-oligonucleotide;
- c) reacting said in situ unactivated label to create an in situ activated label;
- d) deprotecting the amino group of said support-bound, protected linker-oligonucleotide to produce a support-bound deprotected linker-oligonucleotide, and;
- e) reacting said support-bound deprotected linker-oligonucleotide with said activated label to produce a labeled support-bound protected oligonucleotide.